

REMARKS

This application has been carefully reviewed in light of the Office Action of December 20, 2005, wherein:

- A. Claims 1-6 and 8 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as being anticipated by DeRose et al.;
- B. Claims 13-14 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as being anticipated by Sigeti et al.;
- C. Claims 15-16 were allowed; and
- D. Claim 7 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Claim Amendments

Claims 1 through 14 have been cancelled.

Allowable Subject Matter

- C. Claims 15-16 were allowed. The Applicants thank the Examiner for his allowance of these claims.

Concluding Remarks:

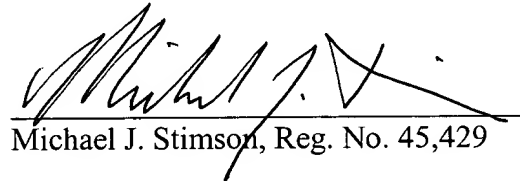
Allowed Claims 15 and 16 remain in the application, all other claims have been cancelled. The Examiner is earnestly solicited to allow all claims, and pass this application to issuance.

The Commissioner is authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required or credit overpayment to deposit account no. 08-3038. In particular, if this response is not timely filed, the Commissioner is authorized to treat this response as including a petition to extend the time period pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) requesting an extension of time of the number of months necessary to make this response timely filed. The petition fee due in connection therewith may be charged to deposit account no. **08-3038**, referencing Howrey Docket No. **01339.0010.NPUS01**.

To expedite allowance of this case, the Examiner is earnestly invited to call the undersigned at (949) 721-6900.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: March 20, 2006


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